

Weekly Field Memo – April 30, 2014

TOPICS:

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NEWS & UPDATES:

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 5-9, 2014

Audience: All

Teachers play a key role in student success and sometimes a simple “thanks” is all a teacher needs to feel valued. [Click here](#) for ideas to honor teachers during **2014 Teacher Appreciation Week**! Use the #ThankaTeacher hashtag and join thousands showing their support for our nation's teachers. [Click here](#) to learn about ways to celebrate **National Teacher Day** on May 6.

Contact: Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or angela.ross@state.vt.us

Vermont Teachers of the Year Have Blogs!

Audience: All

Want to hear what the Vermont Teachers of the Year have to say? Check out their blogs!

- Luke Foley, 2014 VT Teacher of the Year: <http://lukefoleyvt.blogspot.com/>
- Jay Hoffman, 2013 VT Teacher of the Year: <http://jhoffman4change.blogspot.com/>
- Craig Divis, 2010 VT Teacher of the Year: <http://mrdivis.wordpress.com/>

Contact: Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or angela.ross@state.vt.us

English Language Arts/Literacy Web Page Highlights

Audience: K-12 Educators

Visit our [English Language Arts/Literacy](#) page to access useful resources for connecting standards, curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices. Check out the *Videos for Instructional Support* section for useful tips on implementing various strands of the Common Core ELA standards.

Contacts: Lori Dolezal, Elementary Literacy Coordinator, 802-479-1405 or lori.dolezal@state.vt.us; Kris Breen, Middle/High School Literacy Coordinator, 802-479-1870 or kris.breen@state.vt.us

AOE Communication

Audience: All

Our press releases, field memos, calendar of events, and more are online: <http://bit.ly/11ajrtH>. View our strategic plan here: <http://bit.ly/1cZbMBP>. Connect with the AOE on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

Contact: Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or angela.ross@state.vt.us

CONFERENCES & EVENTS:

Engineering Content in the STEM Classroom K-12

Audience: Science, Mathematics, and English Language Arts educators

This course will take place at Norwich University from July 14-18. The institute will present a holistic approach to incorporating engineering content into science, mathematics, and English language arts instruction. Housing is available. More information: <http://goo.gl/tLMUPq>.

Contact: Maureen Maidrand at mmaidrand@brsu.org; Pat Fitzsimmons, Math/Science Partnership Coordinator, 802-479-1425 or pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us

STANDARDS & ASSESSMENTS:



Common Core State Standards (CCSS): Resources on the AOE Website

Audience: All

Check out our Common Core website; resources are added on a weekly basis: <http://bit.ly/1m9D7b4>.

[Click here](#) to learn more about CCSS ELA and [click here](#) to learn more about CCSS Mathematics.

Contacts: Pat Fitzsimmons, Common Core Coordinator, pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us; Lori Dolezal, Elementary Literacy Coordinator, lori.dolezal@state.vt.us; Kris Breen, Secondary Literacy Coordinator, kris.breen@state.vt.us; Tracy Watterson, Math Coordinator, tracy.watterson@state.vt.us



Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): FAQ

Audience: All

What is NGSS@NSTA? [Click here](#) to see the answer and [click here](#) to access the science standards.

Contacts: Gail Hall, Middle-High School Science, 802-479-1284 or gail.hall@state.vt.us; Kathy Renfrew, K-5 Science, 802-479-1448 or kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us



Smarter Balanced Assessment

Audience: All

Learn more about the SMARTER Balanced field test in Vermont: <http://education.vermont.gov/sbac>.

Contacts: Michael Hock, State Assessment Director, 802-479-1288 or michael.hock@state.vt.us; MaryAnn Minardo, Teacher Outreach, 802-479-1309 or maryann.minardo@state.vt.us; Frank Gerdeman, ISL-Secondary & Adult Assistant Director, 802-479-1381 or frank.gerdeman@state.vt.us

OTHER EDUCATION NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS:

From Idea to Impact: Harnessing the Power of Video in Your Classroom

Audience: Educators

Looking for new ways to inspire your students and address Common Core Standards? Join the Regional Educational Television Network (RETN) and Vermont's 2013 Teacher of the Year, Jay Hoffman, for a

three-credit summer video course in Burlington from July 7-11. Learn more about the event and register here: <http://retn.org/SummerCourse>.

Contact: Doug Dunbebin, RETN, 802-654-7980 ext. 24 or doug@retn.org

Vermont High Schools Tested on Financial Literacy - \$3,000 First Prize

Audience: All

The State Treasurer's Office is holding the sixth statewide high school competition to select a [Vermont Treasury Cup Challenge](#) champion. The competition will be held on Friday, May 2 from 9am - 3:30pm at the Pavilion Building auditorium in Montpelier.

Contact: Lisa Helme, Treasurer's Office, 802-828-3706 or lisa.helme@state.vt.us

Vermont Higher Education Collaborative - Summer Courses and Events

Audience: All

The VT-HEC Summer Course and Event Schedule is available at www.vthec.org. Registration has also begun for our educator licensing courses. We are offering new workshops this summer that will be presented by Bill Rich and Val Gardner as part of the VPA Leadership Academy, Aug. 6-8th.

Contact: Kim McKellar, VT-HEC, 802-498-3350 or kim.mckeller@vthec.org

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Vermont Agency of Education (VT-AOE) to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the Agency will still be sent. In addition, the VT-AOE Weekly Field Memo is [archived](#) on the Agency of Education website. For information which is three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, at (802) 479-1240 or angela.ross@state.vt.us.

Sign up for the weekly field memo here: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html

Vermont Agency of Education | 219 North Main Street | Suite 402 | Barre, VT 05641
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